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LB 500

SENATOR LANDIS: And that's what we will be able to do in two years if we pass this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: (Visitors and doctor of the day introduced.) On with discussion of the Revenue Committee, after we do the committee amendments by Chairman Landis of the Revenue Committee. Senator Landis, you're recognized to open on the Revenue Committee amendments.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. There are a multitude of amendments here. One of them strikes Section 26 that would have allowed a public body to sell, lease, or convey property without public notice. There's a bill that adds a new section to amend 75-2501 to exclude contracting public bodies acting under the bill for the Uniform Eminent Domain provisions. And Senator Redfield will have an amendment shortly to strike eminent domain from the bill, which I will support. Third, add the word "county" or "counties" in 33 places, to grant municipalities authorities to apply for the designation of an entertainment and tourism development district, so they can either be a city or a county that does this. We'll add to the list of things that are development project costs which can be used for these funds that are generated by the STAR bonds. It will include furniture and fixtures, engineering, architectural, and planning expenses, legal, accounting, and consulting, and capitalized interest, among others. It will strike the limitation that the district be located within ten miles of a metropolitan class city or six miles of a first class city, so this tool could be used around the state. Change the requirement that the district have an abundance of real property that is not on the tax rolls of industry valuation to a high proportion of such property, although it will leave in place the necessity of having this done in essentially unimproved real estate. What we're not going to do is we're not going to go in downtown someplace and level buildings and whatever. You're going to have to use undeveloped real estate for one of these projects. We're going to redefine qualified business activities for those kinds of things that can make use of this. To clarify that the business is to result in substantial retail purchasers, from travelers from other states, and to provide specifically to the qualified business does not include retail operations where another store